

OUR VISION:

"WE ARE CONTINUALLY ATTRACTING PEOPLE TO ST LUKE'S AND EVERYONE WHO ENGAGES AS A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY IS TRANSFORMED IN EVERY AREA OF THEIR LIFE BY HAVING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS."



First Reading

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm:

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second Reading

1 Jn 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are the children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel

Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Reflection: Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

- Greg Sunter



WANT TO GIVE TO ST LUKE'S WITHOUT TOUCHING ANY CURRENCY?

The details for giving electronically to our regular collections are:

1st Collection

(living costs of clergy in our Diocese):

BSB: 067 950

Account: 000 04265

Account Name: Diocese of Parramatta BOM (Board of Management)

Reference: 'Marsden Park' and your name (it's important to include this reference).

2nd Collection

(costs of running St Luke's Community)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004026

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park

Reference: Your name

OR:



Scan the QR Code using your phone camera and click the link

Choose '**MARSDEN PARK – St Luke's Catholic Faith Community'**

St Luke's Building fund

(for a future Church building)

BSB: 067 950

Account: 0004307

Account Name: St Luke's Marsden Park

Reference: Your name

Please consider making these recurring payments (weekly).

We welcome this week as our Celebrants:

Fr Bill Goldman (Vigil)

Fr Robert Riedling (10am)

PLEASE NOTE: The dispensation from attending Mass for all Catholics in our Diocese remains in place. If you have cold or flu symptoms or an allergy, please stay at home.

Bookings are still required for Mass. Please use the Eventbrite ticketing system as follows:

The 'ticket' booking links are:

Saturday Vigil (5.30pm) Mass

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/110582713874>

Sunday morning (10am) Mass

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/110583072948>

BAPTISMS

For inquiries about the Sacrament of Initiation (Baptism) contact Deacon Tony at marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

ST LUKE'S 2021 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

This year's schedule is:

First Holy Communion

Preparation sessions on Wednesdays at 6pm: May 5, 12, 19, 26.

Sacrament received on Corpus Christi – Saturday, June 5 at 5.30pm Mass and Sunday June 6 at 10am Mass.

First Reconciliation

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays at 6pm: July 7, 21, 28

Sacrament received on Wednesday, August 11 from 6 – 7.30pm.

Confirmation

Preparation sessions: Wednesdays at 6pm: October 6, 13, 20, 27.

Sacrament on Sunday, Oct 31 with Bishop Vincent.

Preparation sessions at the College at 6pm. Parents will need to attend formation sessions with their children. Enrolment Forms available at our Welcome Table.

Return to Deacon Tony or email to marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Reconciliation will now be offered on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, **after** the 5.30pm Vigil Mass.



Sunday 10am Mass via zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/93918900500>

Position Vacant

Head: Formation for Mission

Head: Mission Engagement

Diocese of Parramatta

Applications close Monday 10 May

More details at: parracatholic.org/employment



Volunteer Bookkeeper Position:

(15 hours per week, based at Petersham).

If you know your way around accounting processes, and either looking for experience, or a meaningful retirement, Executive Director, Roger O'Halloran, would love to hear from you. roger@palms.org.au or 9560 5333 in business hours.

CatholicCare Blacktown Neighbourhood Aid Volunteers Needed

Blacktown Neighbour Aid is looking for volunteers to support senior clients in the Blacktown area to remain living independently in their own home. If you would like to make a positive difference to other's lives, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

Community Visitors Scheme Volunteers Needed

The Community Visitors Scheme, a program with CatholicCare, is looking for volunteers to provide a friendly visit to residents in local Aged Care Facilities who are lonely or isolated from their family and friends. If you feel you could spare one hour a week or a fortnight to help a person feel more valued and respected, please contact the Manager, Deb Woolacott on 0418 114 055 or email deb.woolacott@ccss.org.au.

Dr Laurie Woods Gospel Study Series

CCD is pleased to offer a Study of the Gospel of St John with Dr Laurie Woods over 5 Fridays – 23 and 30 April and 7, 14 and 21 May. These sessions, held from 9.30am to 2pm, will open our eyes to the depth of this Gospel and its application to everyday life, and are open to all. Please register with Maree on 8838 3486 or at maree.collis@parracatholic.org

Get vaccinated for the common good

Vaccination against COVID-19 is a morally good thing, providing protection for the person vaccinated and the wider community. Some COVID-19 vaccines are associated with ethically questionable production and research practices, but Pope Francis and the Australian Bishops have advised that it is morally permissible to receive any vaccine made available. More information is available at <https://www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus>

'The Well' offers new refreshment in 2021

'The Well' is back in 2021. The team are hoping to drip-feed new and relatable content every 72 hours that supports your ministry with family, friends, students, colleagues and strangers. Check it out on www.thewell.org.au

St Bernadette's Lalor Park Wednesday Evening Devotions

St Bernadette's Parish, Lalor Park, is hosting weekly devotions to Mary Immaculate and St Bernadette every Wednesday evening at 7pm, followed by Mass at 7.30pm. All are welcome. For more information, contact the parish office on (02) 9672 4037 or admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au

ONE COLLECTION AT ST LUKE'S

As from April, our Pastoral Council has decided that St Luke's will have just one collection, with funds split 30/70 to the previous first and second collections respectively. So, all contributions made at Mass, via either cash or tap device, will be split in this way.



Weekly Novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help:

Wednesdays at 7.30pm via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/624180454>

Youth Corner

The next 'Saints in Training' gathering will be on Friday 14th May, meeting in the Hub at St Luke's Catholic College. All high school aged students are welcome!

For details please email:

saintlukesyg@gmail.com



Be a part of the St Luke's community

We currently have vacancies in the following ministries: Acolyte, Altar Server, Musician, Reader, Children's Liturgy, Welcoming, Hospitality, Logistics.

If you would like to join one of these amazing teams send us an email for more information: marsdenpark@parracatholic.org



WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.30pm

Sunday 10.00am

RECONCILIATION

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month after the Vigil Mass

Baptisms available most Sundays after Mass. Apply via email.

CONTACT US

Pastoral Director:

Deacon Tony Hoban

Phone:

(02) 8840 8521

Email:

marsdenpark@parracatholic.org

Website:

stlukesmarsdenpark.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stlukesmarsdenpark

Address:

2 Springdale St, Marsden Park

Postal Address:

PO Box 85, Plumpton NSW 2761

SCHOOL ENQUIRIES: 9854 3100

www.stlukesmarsdenpark.catholic.edu.au